**WOODLANDS CHURCH**

**June 10th 2018. Building tomorrow’s Church today**

**Discussion notes: Global: Mark 13:10, Mathew 28:19**

We live in a rapidly changing world. Historic churches however tend to value tradition and permanence. They can often be characterised as conservative institutions. The Church Jesus founded however was a dynamic movement that He was building in a way that meant it could take the offensive (‘and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against her’). In this series we look at some of the *values* of Church (values carry permanence) and some of the *practices* that are more flexible as we consider the challenges of the future.

One of the challenges we face in Britain is the challenge of a declining Church numerically in contrast to many other parts of the world where the Church is growing rapidly. In our ‘post Christendom’ culture what is the relationship with the Church in the UK with the rest of the world?

1. Mark 13 implies that the end of the age and the return of Jesus is somehow contingent on the gospel going to all nations. What is your response to that idea?
2. In a culture of declining Church attendance should UK Churches still be sending missionaries overseas? Don’t we need them at home?
3. Culturally we practice a very ‘western’ Christianity but the majority of the Church is now ‘Southern’ and expanding in very different cultures to our own. How should we engage cross culturally with these expanding Churches?
4. Have you ever been on an overseas mission trip? Could you describe the impact it made on you?
5. As Europeans with a relatively well resourced Church in the UK compared to the mainland, how should we engage with European Christians? What will the impact of Brexit be on our European and Global evangelism?
6. How can we express being part of a global family more effectively at Woodlands?

This weekend is our global partnership weekend. Why not try and connect with one of our partners, pray for them as a group and consider going on a short term mission trip?